

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

Confirmation No.: Unknown

VERKAMA

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Appln. No.: FILED HEREWITH

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: HEREWITH

Title: DIGITAL TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM

April 20, 2001

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At the top of the first page, just under the title, insert

--This application is the National Phase of International Application PCT/FI99/00868 filed October 19, 1999 which designated the U.S. and that International Application was Published under PCT Article 21(2) in English.—

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-14 as follows:

1. (Amended) A digital telecommunication system comprising:

a first centre configured to enable speech communication between a plurality of terminals, the first centre being associated with a calling terminal and including a first transcoder unit;

a second centre that is configured to enable speech communication between a plurality